

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
OFFICE OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

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01/06/87

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

1. TITLE  Pioneer Construction Materials Co.	2. CONTROL NUMBER  86-X-4-4 #3 34W
3. PERIOD COVERED	4. REPORTING OFFICE  Seattle

SYNOPSIS:

Observations and Sampling on June 13, 1986

Reference is made to ROI's 86-X-4-4 #1 and #2 reporting possible violations of the Clean Water Act by Pioneer Construction Materials Co. from discharges of wastewater into the Duwamish River in an area designated as Slip #2.

On June, 13, 1986 at approximately 8:15 PM, Lee Moyer and S/A Gerd Hattwig traveled by kayak to the location of Pioneer Construction Materials Co. on the Duwamish River. Upon arriving off-shore from the plant, located at the north side of Slip #2, the odor of cement was evident and discoloration in the water was noticeable. The source of this discoloration was a drain located behind an approximate 12" x 12" steel plate on the south side of the facility. The drain was discharging a large quantity of liquid which was gushing from behind the plate. The plume of the discharge was flowing toward the east part of the waterway and away from the Duwamish River. The discharge was sampled by Lee Moyer as it entered the waters of the Duwamish. Additionally, a water sample was taken away from the discharge for comparative purposes and it appeared quite a bit clearer. There did not seem to be any other activity occurring at the truck wash area of the plant. At approximately 8:23 PM the surveillance was terminated while the discharge was still occurring.

At 8:55 PM, Moyer and S/A Hattwig returned to the area of the Pioneer facility. The water off-shore from Pioneer, in the Duwamish River, appeared to be quite clear. After turning into Slip #2 along the northern edge which is bordered by the plant, Moyer and S/A Hattwig observed that the water was turning gray and had an obvious odor of cement. Moyer and S/A Hattwig further observed that the discharge from the drain covered by the metal plate was still occurring. The discharge foamed as it entered the water. At approximately 9:03 an unidentified male was observed checking some parked cement trucks. The male, who was holding a clipboard, was described as: black, approximately 5'6" to 5'7" tall, approximately 35 years of age, wearing a cap. The surveillance of the Pioneer plant was terminated at approximately 9:10 PM at which time the discharge was still occurring.

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REPORT MADE BY  S/A Gerd Hattwig	DATE  1-6-87
REVIEWING OFFICIAL  SAIC Dixon McClary	DATE  1/6/87

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